Non-setting of prices Brustan and Anaflam

403. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 157 given in Rajya Sabha on 4-3-93 and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that even after the lapse of four years, prices of Brustan and Anaflam have not been settled and the producers overcharged;

(b) what steps have been taken to fix the prices and work out the overcharged amount;

(c) what is the basis on which M|s Carews, an MRTP company started operations and took benefits of small scale violating I (D&R) Act, 1951 and the price control orders; and

(d) by what time Government would complete enquiry against the company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b) Both, Brustan and Anaflam conform to ceiling pack based on Ibuprofen and Paracetamol bulk drugs. Prices of these ceiling packs have been fixed|revised by the Government from time to time. The matter regarding overcharging in respect of these two formulations could not be finalised so far as these companies have raised certain factual and legal issues, instead of submitting the requisite information to enable the Government to work out the overcharged amount.

(c) and (d) The matter is under examination in consultation with Department of Company Affairs.

Output of chemical fertilizers in the Country

404. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV :
SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what was the total output of chemical fertilizers i.e. nitrogenous, phosphatic and potassium in the country in 1992-93;

(b) what is the demand for these fertilizers in 1993-94;

(c) what quantity of fertilizers has been imported and what amount of foreign exchange has been spent on this account; and

(d) whether there is any proposal of joint ventures with multinationals to set up phosphatic and potassic fertilizer plants in foreign countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The total estimated production of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers (in terms of nutrients) in the country during 1992-93 was 74.31 lakh tonnes and 22.92 lakh tonnes, respectively. Potash is entirely being imported as there are no known postassic reserves in the country.

(b) The estimated demand of fertilizers during 1993-94 is 138.50 lakh tonnes comprising 96.50 lakh tonnes of Nitrogen, 32.00 lakh tonnes of Phosphate and 10.00 lakh tonnes of Potash.

(c) A total quantity of 52.04 lakh tonnes of various fertilizers were imported on Government account during 1992-93 at a total value of Rs. 2216.00 crores with payment of Rs. 2023.31 crores made by MMTC in free foreign exchange.

(d) A joint venture of Government of India, IFFCO and SPIC in Senegal for production of phosphatic fertilizers|phosphoric acid is already in operation since 1984.